

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 201220Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4478

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEBASSY MADRID

USUN NEW YORK 200

S E C R E T LUXEMBOURG 0464

EXDIS

ATHENS FOR AMBASSADOR HERZ

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, LU

SUBJ: ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM SEES PRIME MINISTER ON UN  
MATTERS

SUMMARY: THORN MADE A BID FOR U.S. INTERVENTION IN FAVOR  
OF HIS CANDIDACY WITH THE SPANISH BEFORE THE JUNE 24 WEO  
GROUP MEETING IN NEW YORK. HE SAID THAT THE EC MEMBERS  
AGREED ON THE VALUE OF UNIVERSALITY FOR THE UN, AND  
WOULD THEREFORE BE UNITED AGAINST ANY MOVE TO EXPEL ISRAEL  
FROM THE UNGA. THORN EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THE SECRETARY'S  
PROPOSAL ON RECONVENING THE ENERGY PREP CON, BUT SAID  
THAT SOME LINKAGE WOULD HAVE TO EXIST BETWEEN THE WORK  
OF THE THREE COMMISSIONS THE SECRETARY ENVISAGED. THORN  
ALSO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE KOREAN ITEM AT THE UN AND  
ASKED FOR U.S. VIEWS ON THE DANGER OF RENEWED HOSTILITIES  
IN KOREA. THORN RENEWED HIS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FROM U.S. OFFICIALS DURING  
HIS UNGA PRESIDENCY. END SUMMARY

1. ON JUNE 19 ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM, ACCOMPANIED  
BY AMBASSADOR FARKAS, CALLED ON THE PRIME MINISTER IN  
RESPONSE TO THORN'S REQUEST FOR COUNSELING FROM USG  
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ON UN MATTERS. BUFFUM ALSO HAD SEPARATE WORKING SES-

SION WITH MFA SECRETARY GENERAL WURTH AND DEPUTY POLITICAL DIRECTOR MERTZ BEFOREHAND FOR THOROUGH DISCUSSION OF PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS THORN WILL HAVE TO FACE IN NEW YORK.

2. THORN BEGAN BY ASKING BUFFUM WHETHER U.S. WOULD MAKE DEMARCHE IN MADRID TO DISCOURAGE SPANISH FROM MAINTAINING THEIR CANDIDACY FOR UNGA PRESIDENCY. THE PRIME MINISTER REPEATED HIS FEAR THAT A DEADLOCK IN THE WEO GROUP AT THE JUNE 24 MEETING MIGHT GIVE THE GROUP OF 77 AN OPPORTUNITY TO DICTATE THE CHOICE OF THE NEXT UNGA PRESIDENT. BUFFUM ANSWERED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THE STATE OF BILATERAL US/SPAIN RELATIONS WOULD PERMIT SUCH A DEMARCHE, INVOLVED AS WE WERE ON THE RENEGOTIATION OF THE SPANISH BASES. BUFFUM ALSO QUESTIONED WHETHER SUCH A DEMARCHE MIGHT NOT BE UNHELPFUL TO THORN'S CANDIDACY SINCE U.S. IS NOT MEMBER OF WEO GROUP AND OTHERS MIGHT RESENT INTERFERENCE FROM OUTSIDE THE GROUP. BUFFUM DID AGREE, HOWEVER, TO RAISE WITH DEPARTMENT WHETHER USG WOULD CONSIDER DISCREETLY INFORMING MADRID THAT MAINTENANCE OF THE SPANISH CANDIDACY BEYOND JUNE 24 COULD SERIOUSLY DAMAGE THE CHANCES OF A WESTERN EUROPEAN CANDIDACY FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNGA. ACTION REQUESTED: WE BELIEVE GOL WOULD WELCOME INDICATION USG HAD CAREFULLY REVIEWED THIS POSSIBILITY EVEN THOUGH BUFFUM GAVE THEM NO ENCOURAGEMENT TO BELIEVE U.S. LIKELY TO APPROACH SPAIN.

3. WHEN BUFFUM DESCRIBED U.S. EFFORTS TO DISCOURAGE ANY ARAB ATTEMPT TO SUSPEND OR EXPEL ISRAEL, THORN REACTED VERY POSITIVELY. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE EC MEMBERS ALL AGREED THAT THE UNIVERSALITY THE UN HAD FINALLY ACHIEVED AFTER MANY YEARS SHOULD NOT BE THREATENED BY AN ISRAELI EXPULSION. THORN ALSO AGREED THAT THE POLITICAL REACTION IN THE WEST FOLLOWING ANY SUCH EXPULSION WOULD BE SO GREAT AS TO SEVERELY DAMAGE PUBLIC AND PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT OF THE UN. HE AGREED TO WORK FOR A STRONG STATEMENT ON UNIVERSALITY IN THE EC STATEMENT ON THE UN THAT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL IS PLANNING TO ISSUE THIS SUMMER. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION, WURTH OBSERVED

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THAT THORN WOULD LIKELY AGREE WITH BUFFUM'S POINT THAT BOUTEFLIKA HAD OVERSTEPPED THE UNGA PRESIDENT'S PEROGATIVES BY ACCORDING CHIEF OF STATE TREATMENT TO ARAFAT.

4. IN DISCUSSING THE ECONOMIC QUESTIONS TO BE RAISED AT THE SEPTEMBER SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA, THORN SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A REPORT OF ALGERIAN ENERGY MINISTER ABDESSELAM'S REACTION TO SECRETARY

KISSINGER'S PROPOSAL FOR THREE COMMISSIONS TO DISCUSS ENERGY, RAW MATERIALS AND DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS. ABDESSELAM REPORTEDLY TOLD THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR IN ALGIERS, THAT SOME PARALLELISM BETWEEN THE WORK IN THE THREE COMMISSIONS WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE THE LDCS "WOULD HAVE HIGH CARDS ONLY IN THE ENERGY COMMISSION." THORN SAID THAT HE FAVORED SOME LINKAGE BETWEEN THE THREE COMMISSIONS, LIKE AT CSCE WHERE PROGRESS ON THE DIFFERENT BASKETS PROCEEDED AT DIFFERENT RATES ALTHOUGH THE TOTAL PACKAGE HAD TO AWAIT THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE SEPARATE NEGOTIATIONS. THORN ALSO REPORTED THAT THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR HERE HAD TOLD HIM THAT PARIS FAVORED HAVING A SECOND PREPCON THIS SUMMER POSSIBLY AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL. THORN EXPRESSED SOME SKEPTICISM AT THE UTILITY OF RUSHING INTO ANOTHER PREPCON UNPREPARED, ESPECIALLY WITH THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION COMING UP IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. ON THE GENERAL QUESTION OF ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE WEST AND LDCS, THORN SAID THAT THE WEST SHOULD NOW BEGIN TO AGREE ON COMMON POSITIONS SO THAT THE DCS DO NOT APPEAR SERIOUSLY DIVIDED OPPOSITE LDC SOLIDARITY AT SPECIAL SESSION. THORN SAID THAT HE WOULD NOT ATTEND THE SPECIAL SESSION IN NEW YORK BUT ARRIVE IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARD.

5. AFTER HEARING BUFFUM'S STATUS REPORT ON THE KOREAN ITEM AT THE UN AND HIS CONCERN THAT NORTH KOREAN PRESIDENT KIM MIGHT INTERPRET ANY WEAKENING OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT AS AN INVITATION TO RASH ACTION, THORN SAID THAT HE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING INFORMATION FROM THE U.S. ON NORTH KOREA'S INTENTIONS. THE PRIME MINISTER ADDED THAT HE WAS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED TO KNOW WHETHER KIM MIGHT ATTACK THE SOUTH WITHOUT CONSULTING THE USSR OR PRC IN THE HOPE OF FORCING THEM TO SUPPORT  
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HIM AFTER THE ATTACK HAD BEGUN. WURTH DID REASSURE US GOL WOULD SUPPORT SOUTH KOREA'S POSITION IN UN ALTHOUGH INCREASINGLY DISTURBED AT SEOUL'S BAD RECORD ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

ACTION REQUESTED: ANY ASSESSMENT DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE TO RESPOND TO THORN'S INTEREST IN POSSIBLE AGGRESSIVE MOVES BY NORTH KOREA.

6. THORN SAID THAT HE WAS VERY GRATEFUL FOR THE BUFFUM BRIEFINGS AND THAT HE WOULD CONTINUE TO RELY ON THE U.S. FOR "INFORMATION AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT." BUFFUM REPLIED THAT THE U.S. WOULD OF COURSE WANT TO BE HELPFUL TO THORN IN EVERY WAY AND WOULD CONVEY TO THE PRIME MINISTER AN INCREASING AMOUNT OF INFORMATION AS WELL AS U.S. POLICY VIEWS AS THE UNGA APPROACHES.

7. ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM HAS SEEN AND APPROVED  
THIS MESSAGE.  
FARKAS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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